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ABSTRACT

This booklet provides information on the Native American Preparatory School, a residential secondary school in Rowe, New Mexico, for high-achieving Native American students. The school sponsors two programs: a 5-week rigorously academic summer school for junior high school students and, beginning in fall 1995, a 4-year college preparatory program. The programs stress character and cultural development through academics, community service, athletics, and the arts, with the goal of preparing Native American students to be successful in college and to become effective community leaders. The school's philosophy is based on blending Native American and Western education and emphasizing culture, the community, creativity, and challenge. The school is located in the Pecos River valley on land that was sacred to the Paequiu tribe during the 12th century. The curriculum focuses on critical thinking skills, effective communication skills, writing fluency, and computer literacy. In addition, all students participate in athletics and extracurricular activities. Admission is based solely on merit, and financial aid is available. Course offerings and special activities are listed. The booklet lists the board of directors and advisory board members. (LP)

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Native American Preparatory School

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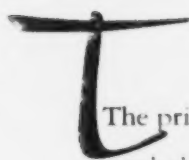
Native American Preparatory School

Mission Statement

The Native American Preparatory School is a student-centered program that provides Native American students with a stimulating four-year college preparatory experience stressing character and cultural development through a curriculum encompassing academics, community service, athletics and the arts.

The Native American Preparatory School strives to achieve the highest standards of excellence, serving as a national model for public and independent Native American college preparatory education. This would be accomplished by bringing together the best academic principles with the strengths of traditional values and identities rooted in the students' tribal cultures.

The Native American Preparatory School is dedicated to nurturing the intellectual, ethical and leadership potential of each student, instilling high ideals of excellence and motivation to pursue dreams and aspirations while promoting a strong sense of responsibility to the many communities in which they will participate.



The primary shape, the circle, symbolizes the holistic continuity of Indian Culture. The circle also forms the shape of the medicine shield taken into battle by Plains Indians for personal protection against the enemy (the battle here is against ignorance). Instead of Thunderbirds, buffaloes or other representational hand-painted designs on the shield, the flame of enlightenment and liberty appears for protection from the contemporary

enemy—ignorance and oppression. Four eagle feathers hang from the shield representing the four directions and the power of the eagle brought to the educational process. The symbol contains traditional and contemporary elements to represent the educated Indian's ability to walk in both worlds successfully.

John Nieto

Artist.



MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIRMAN

American Indian people are a national treasure and resource. America has much to gain from the thousands of years of experience of Native Americans on the North American continent. The knowledge and wisdom accumulated is increasingly appreciated by the United States and the world as a whole. The storehouse of wisdom encompasses all the disciplines, but in particular, the relationship of human beings to the rest of the natural world, a subject we must all master for our global survival.

The youth who are educated at the Native American Preparatory School will be the

leaders not only of their own tribes and states, but will also become effective architects of United States policy. We help our exceptional students recognize their own abilities, and prepare them to wrestle with the formidable societal challenges that face all of us. With quality education, American Indian people will regain their rightful place in America—proud of their culture and traditions, and confident in their ability to succeed at any endeavor.

Richard P. Ettinger

Chairman of the Board of Directors

MESSAGE FROM THE HEAD OF SCHOOL

The Native American Preparatory School is as much about the heart as it is the head, as much about preparation for success and leadership in life as it is success in college. The Native American students who graduate from our school will have affirmed and celebrated the value of their culture and traditions; they will also have learned to meet and master acad-

emic challenge. Proud of their heritage, secure in who they are, our students will face a future where doors will open rather than close on their hopes, and where the boundaries of their achievement will be limited only by the scope of their own imaginations.

Norman E. Carey, Ph.D.

Head of School



PHILOSOPHY

The Native American Preparatory School Inc. (NAPS) is dedicated to providing talented Native American students with educational opportunities of the highest quality in an academic and social environment that recognizes the culture of the student as fundamental to his or her education. In all of its programs, NAPS strives to blend the best features of Native American and Western education in ways that enhance the potential of each student. NAPS is committed to the idea that the amount that a student can learn is limited only by the motivation of the students, the ability of the instructor and the resources of the educational environment. Traditional Native American knowledge working in conjunction with cutting edge educational research provides our

foundation. These beliefs lead to a unique educational institution with a special character. This character derives from the following understandings:

Culture: The millennia old cultures and traditions of the Native American nations are priceless human assets. We maintain that cultural, spiritual and educational growth is intertwined and inseparable. It is this blending that has made Native American cultures effective, adaptable and enduring. It is our goal to enable students to be knowledgeable committed custodians of their culture.

Community: The worth of individuals is measured by what they contribute to their community, family and nation rather than by what they take away. NAPS seeks to educate stu-



dents to be productive, socially responsible individuals with an understanding of their place in the local and global community. NAPS is committed to the total involvement of the community and extended family in the student's education.

Creativity: The need for creativity in addressing the issues facing Native American nations and the world is imperative. At NAPS, we celebrate the potential of the creative individual. It is our goal to provide a supportive and stimulating educational experience that fosters creativity, creative thinking and innovation.

Challenge: We see challenge as one of the primary driving forces behind the Native American Preparatory School. We seek to challenge students mentally through a rigorous aca-

demic program taught by the best instructors available. We challenge students artistically with the goal that each student should excel in a chosen art form. We challenge students physically through the use of a wide range of sports games and encourage healthful living. We also challenge students to be spiritually strong enough to achieve all their goals in a changing society. The tasks we present for our students will prepare them for a changing future of Native America and the world.

This 4C approach (Culture, Community, Creativity and Challenge) sets the stage to prepare Native American students for lifelong learning and achievement.

HISTORY OF SCHOOL

The Native American Preparatory School was founded for the purpose of providing highly motivated American Indian children in grades seven, eight and nine with an opportunity to prepare themselves intellectually, emotionally and socially to meet the challenges of secondary school and higher education.

NAPS sponsors two programs:

1. A five week rigorously academic summer school for high achieving, motivated American Indian junior high school students and

2. A four-year college preparatory school scheduled to admit its first class September 1995 near Santa Fe, New Mexico.

The first summer school opened in 1988 for fifty Navajo children on the campus of Verde Valley School in Sedona, Arizona. In the summers of 1989, '90 and '91 the program was conducted at New Mexico State University

for a growing student body representing more than fifty Native American tribes and nations. The summers of 1992, '93 and '94 saw the school co-sponsored by the Department of Social Ecology at the University of California, Irvine for one hundred and fifty junior high boys and girls.

A summer school was also conducted in '94 on the campus of the College of Santa Fe, New Mexico. Students have participated in an innovative, educational program that motivated and encouraged them to pursue higher education. This goal was accomplished through the total immersion of selected students in a culturally and academically enriched environment.

A recent study has indicated that over 80% of NAPS participants matriculated and are attending college. This compares to less than 35% of Native students generally.

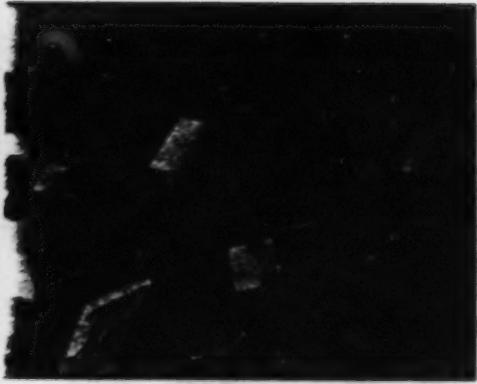
THE CAMPUS

The location of the Native American Preparatory School is in the beautiful valley of the Pecos River which has a rich and fertile history. In the twelfth century, thousands of Tanoan people occupied a number of pueblos scattered along the upper Pecos River Valley. These people called themselves Paequiu, from which the Spanish derived the word "Pecos". The Paequiu supported themselves by buffalo hunting and farming. A few miles west, the Pecos National Monument has been established based on the ancient ruins, kivas and churches of a once-thriving community, which served as a key trading junction between Plains Indians from the East and the local Pueblo inhabitants. When the village was abandoned, remnants of the residents relocated west to join the Jemez Pueblo community, where they have prospered ever since.

NAPS acquired the campus in 1994 from Larry Wilson, who in turn purchased the 1600-acres from Colonel Edward Gavin. Although Larry spent years investing time, energy and money to improve the site and make the Pecos River Learning Center a truly special place, he has always shared the Native American belief that one can only be a steward of the land, but not its owner.

The Board of Directors of the Native American Preparatory School, whose majority consists of distinguished American Indian leaders, now rejoice in the fact that the sacred lands of the original inhabitants now are protected by the stewardship of the NAPS Board - forever dedicated to the education of Native American youth - their scholarship, culture and future.

CURRICULUM



The program curriculum is expertly adapted to the appropriate educational and developmental levels of gifted and talented students. The culture and art of Native Americans is infused in all aspects of academic and co-curricular life.

Courses focus on critical thinking skills, developing communication, writing fluency and computer literacy. Additionally, the curriculum emphasizes strengthening and enhancing cultural roots through oral traditions and expanding students' knowledge and appreciation of Native American artistic, musical and cultural traditions and accomplishments.

All students participate in athletics and other extracurricular activities that contribute to the vitality and richness of residential school life. Because the campus is

located near Santa Fe, the capital of New Mexico, students are able to take full advantage of cultural and civic events.

The Native American Preparatory School has established a consortium of leading secondary schools throughout the country. The consortium serves as a clearing house for Native American scholarships as well as faculty and student exchange programs.

Students are able to contribute to the school through a required work program. Parents have the opportunity to contribute through gifts in-kind, as well as donations to the scholarship fund.

SELECTED ACADEMIC SUBJECTS

Mathematics
Ecology
Science
Language
Arts
English
Ethnohistory
Computer Technology
Oral History
College Preparation Skills
National and Tribal Civics
Leading the Healthy Life
World History

SPECIAL FEATURES

Presentations
Recreational Seminars
Field Trips
Athletics
Computer Lab
Lectures by Renowned Indian
Artists and Tribal Leaders

ADMISSIONS

Admissions to the Native American Preparatory School is based solely upon merit. No applicant is denied admission because of financial need. Students must have demonstrated strong personal traits such as motivation, determination and leadership ability. Students are drawn from all Native American tribes. Faculty and administrators of reservation schools and public schools may assist in the admission process. The total enrollment will be between 300 and 400 students.

FACULTY

The faculty of the Native American Preparatory School consists of the finest professionals from schools and universities across the United States. This faculty is supported by a committed staff and an experienced administrative team.

By combining the best students, faculty and staff, the Native American Preparatory School is positioned to make valuable and lasting contributions to the Native American community and to the future of America.



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